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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 3763**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Martin LAUER
Serial No. : 09/342,017
Filed : June 28, 1999
For : CONNECTOR ELEMENT WITH A SEALING PART
Art Unit : 3763
Examiner : Michael J. Hayes

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 23, 2004 Reg. No. 42,674

Signature: [Signature]
Thomas C. Hughes

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APR 29 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Transmitted herewith for filing in the above-identified application is a Reply Under 7 C.F.R. § 1.116 in response to the Final Office Action mailed March 9, 2004.

No fee is believed to be required. However, if any fee is required, please use Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A copy of this sheet is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully Submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: April 23, 2004

By: [Signature]
Thomas C. Hughes
Reg. No. 42,674

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